THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported that the Draft Master Plan 2021 has been notified through extraordinary Gazette of India dated 16th March, 2005. This had also been posted on the internet. DDA has further issued a Public Notice through Newspaper advertisement on 8th April, 2005 for inviting objections/suggestions from the public in respect of the said Gazette Notification which contains the text of the draft Master Plan 2021.

(b) Section 10 of the Delhi Development Act, 1957 lays down the procedure to be followed in the preparation and approval of plans which *inter alia* provides that the Delhi Development Authority shall prepare a plan in draft and publish it by making a copy thereof available for inspection and publishing a notice in such form and manner as may be prescribed by rules made in this behalf inviting objections and suggestions.

(c) and (d) DDA has reported that printed copies of Extraordinary Gazette Notification have been made available through the authorized outlets of the publication division of the Government in addition to the counters at the Reception of DDA Offices at Vikas Minar, Vikas Sadan and Master Plan for Delhi-2021 Office at Vasant Kunj, New Delhi.

(e) The time limit of 90 days for filing objections/suggestions starts from 8th April, 2005.

Assistance for Low Cost Housing Schemes

3394. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to help the States on low housing schemes;

(b) whether Government propose to provide additional Central Assistance to the States for which her Ministry would be nodal agency;

(c) if so, whether her Ministry would disburse and monitor the Housing for All schemes targeted for the economically weaker sections and the lower income group;

(d) whether her Ministry estimates that around 22.4 million houses would be needed to keep up with the PM's "Shanghai Vision" for 35 metros; and

(e) if so, the other steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (e) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme called Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) is being implemented w.e.f. 2.12.2001 in urban areas of all States/UTs. The Scheme has the primary objective to facilitate construction and upgradation of dwelling units for slum dwellers living below poverty line including Economically Weaker Sections and to provide healthy and enabling urban environment through community toilets. 50% of the project cost subject to the unit cost ceiling (Rs. 60,000/- for Mega Cities; Rs. 50,000/- for metropolitan cities and Rs. 40,000/- for other cities) is released as Central subsidy and the balance amount is arranged by the concerned State Governments either from their own budget provisions or by taking loan from HUDCO, contribution from beneficiaries etc. There is a provision of State Level Coordination Committee (SLCC) to monitor the implementation of VAMBAY.

Futher, Two Million Housing Programme is under operation since 1998-1999 which envisages to facilitate construction of 20 lakh additional units every year mainly for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and Low Income Group (LIG). Out of which 7 lakh is taken up for construction in Urban areas and 13 lakh houses is taken up for construction in Rural areas. In Urban areas, loan for construction of houses is given by Housing & Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO), Housing Finance Institutions/banks and Cooperative Sector.

The Working Group of the Planning Commission on Urban Housing for the 10th Plan 2002-2007 has estimated 22.44 million dwelling units would be required by the end of the 10th Plan by way of addition/ upgradation. In order to facilitate construction of adequate housing facilities, particularly for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and Low Income Group (LIG), the Government launched the Two Million Housing Programme in 1998-1999. VAMBAY is also being implemented since 2001 to privide houses for the Below Poverty Line Population as well as Economically Weaker Section.